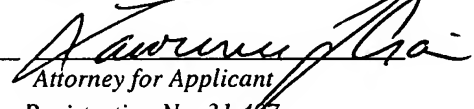


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re U.S. Patent Application of:)
)
 Applicant(s): Harold Fisher)
)
 Serial No.: Unassigned)
)
 Filed: September 30, 2003)
)
 For: THUMB SPLINT)
)
 Parent)
 Serial No. 09/869,849)
)
 Parent Filing)
 Date: October 18, 2001)
)
 Examiner: Unassigned)

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as FIRST-CLASS mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date:

9/30/03 
 Date Attorney for Applicant
 Registration No. 31,497

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This IDS is submitted under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) within either of the following time periods, whichever occurs last:

- (a) within three months of either the filing date of the national application or the date of entry into the national stage; or
- (b) before the mailing date of first office action on the merits (i.e., not including actions such as restriction requirements).

Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO-1449 (Information Disclosure Citation) together with copies of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. Applicant(s) respectfully submit that the citation of any reference on Form PTO-1449 does not constitute an admission that the reference qualifies as prior art.

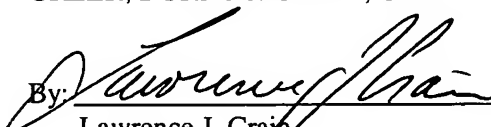
It is requested that the information disclosed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be made of record in this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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 Customer Number 24978

By: 
 Lawrence J. Crain
 Registration No. 31,497

Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce (Rev. 8-88) Patent and Trademark Office				Attorney Docket No.: 3589.68503		Serial No.: Unassigned	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary)				Applicant: FISHER, Harold			
				Filing Date: September 30, 2003		Group: To be Assigned	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate	
	4,369,775	01/25/83	Gamm				
	4,632,105	12/30/86	Barlow				
	4,709,694	12/01/87	O'Connell				
	5,188,356	02/23/93	Furr et al.				
	3,707,730	01/1973	Slider				
	4,953,568	09/1990	Theisler				
	3,533,405	10/1970	Collins				
	5,787,896	08/1998	Sackett				
	4,706,658	11/1987	Cronin				
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
	401 868	12/27/1996	Austria			X	
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
Examiner				Date Considered			
*Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in compliance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in compliance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce (Rev. 8-88) Patent and Trademark Office INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	Attorney Docket No.: 3589.68503	Serial No.: Unassigned
	Applicant: FISHER, Harold	
	Filing Date: September 30, 2003	Group: To be Assigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	3,888,482	6/1975	Starett et al.			
	5,916,187	6/1999	Brill			
	4,638,764	1/1987	Anderson			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner's

Date Considered

*Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in compliance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in compliance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.